WHAT IS THE MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE?

The City-wide Mobilization Committee Against Police Brutality is an organization of people from across the city who saw the need to organize to deal with the police murders which have been committed in the Black and Latino communities. It was formed in 1978 after the brutal slaying of Arthur Miller, who was choked to death by five policemen in Brooklyn when he went to help his brother who was having problems with the police. Arthur Miller's murder was just another example of the utter disregard and disrespect the police and the ruling class have for the Black and Latino communities. While we were outraged about the murders of Randy Evans, Claude Reese, Clifford Glover and many others, and we organized demonstrations to show our anger, these demonstrations only lasted for a while and were not taken up as a consistent struggle.

After the killing of Arthur Miller, it became apparent that the police killings of Blacks and Latinos was becoming a trend because they could kill us and get away with impunity. They were not arrested, taken to jail, put on trial or convicted for the murders they committed.

Why are the police allowed to kill us and get away without reprisal? Because they are the hired guns of the rich ruling class. They are hired to protect the property of the ruling class, not to protect the working class and the poor whose taxes pay their salaries. They are trained to kill us because we are looked upon as the reason for the decaying standard of living in this country. We have been cast in the role of scapegoat by the ruling class. For this reason they try to get rid of us by depriving us of decent housing, education and good health care. Because these methods are not fast enough, they use their hired guns to shoot us.

The Mobilization Committee says "no more." We cannot sit idly by and allow these killings to continue. We must organize ourselves to protest this situation. In October 1978, tribunals were held in Manhattan, Queens, Brooklyn and the Bronx where community people testified about police incidents they were involved in or knew about.

Street rallies have been one of our main functions. They are conducted to bring information to the Black and Latino communities about police atrocities which have occurred and about steps to be taken to help avoid some incidents and to educate the community to the fact that these incidents are not accidents, but a deliberate plan to destroy us.

Some examples of the police murders which have taken place are:

Elizabeth Mangum, shot by the police five times because she could not afford to pay her rent and tried to protect her apartment when she was being evicted;

Luis Baez, a mentally ill man, shot 24 times when his mother called the police to help her get him to the hospital;

Peter Funches, kicked and stomped to death by five policemen and one policewoman because he was going the wrong way on a one way street;

The fatal shooting of an old white man in the subway station because he could not pay the 50 cent fare.

One of the most blatant examples of police atrocity was the killing of Carmen Orsini who was waiting for the train on her way home from school. The police could not allow a young man who did not pay the 50 cent fare to go unchecked, so with criminal disregard for the lives of the people in the subway station, they shot into the crowd, killing Carmen Orsini. The list goes on and on.

The Mobilization Committee sees these police murders, which take place across the country and the rising of the KKK as the planned and conscious rise of fascism. Fascism does not only take place with soldiers marching across the country into peoples' homes with rifles drawn. Fascism is the destruction of our communities, the rising rate of unemployment, the fact that people freeze to death in their apartments, the budget cuts, no raise in pay to meet the rising costs of food, rent, clothing and transportation.

We must take a stand and organize to fight against the many manifestations of the rising fascist movement which is taking place in this country.

MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE AGAINST POLICE BUTALITY
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